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My name is Cynthia Maher, and I am representing the Michigan Plumbing & Mechanical Contractors Association a 126-year old organization of Plumbing and Mechanical Contractors throughout Michigan.

Mister Chairman, members of the committee, I want to thank you for the opportunity to speak this morning on the Senate Bill package 963 through 972.

On behalf of our members, we appear today to explain that while we are fully supportive of the concept of standardizing the skilled trades current laws together in order to streamline the Complaints, Investigations, Administrative Procedures, Penalties and Remedies processes, which we agree, would make the enforcement of the Acts themselves more manageable and efficient we must be neutral at this time.

After meeting with both Senator Horn's office and LARA we were assured there was no intention to change the key policies of the individual Acts which include administration, testing, licensing provisions, prohibited and permitted activities that have made the Acts a very valuable enforcement tool since their inception.

We do however have some concern with a couple of changes to some of the policies that may have inadvertently been missed or eliminated during the conversion/combining of the current acts and we have brought those to the attention of Senator Horn's office.

As I indicated, the Michigan Plumbing & Mechanical Contractors Association has met with and are currently working with Senator Horn's office and hope to continue the dialogue with the Bureau as well to address these concerns.

Again, the Michigan Plumbing & Mechanical Contractors Association agrees that streamlining some of these items will be more cost effective and help in the enforcement of these Acts. We hope to continue to meet with and work toward solutions so we could move toward support of these bills.

Again, thank you for your time to allow me to address this bill package.